

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CHILD HEART AWARENESS DAY

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I come before you today to proclaim that today, February 14, 2000, is "Child Heart Awareness Day." More than 32,000 American babies are born each year with cardiovascular defects, which translates to 1 out of every 115 to 150 births. To put these numbers in perspective, 1 in every 800–1,000 babies is born with Downs Syndrome. Congenital heart defects make up 42 percent of all birth defects, making Congenital Heart Disease the most common birth defect. The American Heart Association estimates that there are approximately 1 million people living with heart defects in the United States today.

Today, I join all children and their families who are affected by congenital heart defects, in focusing public attention on this disease as we look toward the future in finding a cure. Prior to 1960, most children with heart defects died within the first year of life. In the subsequent decades of the 60's, 70's, and 80's, research produced by skilled surgeons and cardiologists led to a variety of different interventions, which allowed the vast majority of infants with heart defects to survive. However, these medical procedures place an enormous burden on the families of children born with congenital heart defects. In addition, many of these children who survive infancy still face a life of dependency on medications, medical procedures and open-heart surgeries.

I recently introduced legislation to lessen the impact of these huge medical bills on American families. H.R. 3325, the "Melissa Froelich Medicaid Congenital Heart Defect Waiver Act of 1999," would permit a State waiver authority to provide medical assistance in cases of congenital heart defects. I introduced this important legislation after learning of the plight of four-year-old Melissa Froelich, who has undergone multiple surgeries and procedures, including four reconstructive heart surgeries, since her birth in 1996.

As we continue to look for ways to cure this birth defect, I hope that the increased public attention on this widespread problem will help begin to ease some of the burdens families of children with congenital heart defects face.

HONORING BOB YOUNG, GLENWOOD SPRINGS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the Glenwood Springs, Colorado Citizen of the Year. Mr. Bob

Young is an inspiration to many and a man who contributes much to his community.

Bob, founder of Alpine Banks, has adopted policies of doing right by his employees and giving back to the community. This, he says, is the bottom line. Bob's policies have won many awards for himself and for his banks, including Business of the Year in Grand Junction, Colorado. Bob has always been ready and willing to give whatever it took to contribute to his community. His charity has had a ripple effect throughout the Western Slope.

Bob has been dedicated to setting up training programs that ultimately employ area young people. When the economy was struggling, Bob did whatever he could to make sure that the citizens could remain valuable members of the community. If it had not been for Bob, many of these people would have been forced to move from the Western Slope. Bob has definitely been a great advocate for the community and is well-deserving of this award.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute to one of the leading businessmen in Colorado and a close personal friend, Bob Young. He is a great citizen who is dedicated to making our community a better place to live.

RECOGNIZING THE WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAMPION LUDLOW HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of the 1999 Ludlow High School girls soccer team. The Ludlow girls soccer team won the program's third Western Massachusetts title last year by defeating defending state champion Cathedral High School. The Lions defeated Central Massachusetts Champion Shrewsbury en route to the state final match, where they fell just short of their goal.

The Ludlow girls soccer team finished the year with a record of 19–2–1. Ludlow was able to dominate a tough league in Western Massachusetts in 1999 by employing a highly skillful style of play. A team that was tough when it needed to be, Ludlow was capable of outclassing most of its opponents. As a result of their high class style, the Lions enjoyed the fervent support of the residents of the Town of Ludlow throughout the season.

Head Coach Jim Calheno has built a very successful program at Ludlow High School. Coach Calheno is well-respected in the coaching community and his team is duly feared. The Ludlow talent pool run very deep, and the Lions are certain to be the team to beat in 2000. A group of talented Juniors, including All-America selected Liz Dyjak and All-New England selection Stephanie Santos, will be looking to claim the state title next season.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to recognize there the players, coaches, and managers of the 1999 Ludlow High School girls soccer team. The Seniors are: Melissa Dominique, Sandy Salvador, Angela Goncalves, Jen Crespo, Marcy Bousquest, Lynsey Calheno, Jenn Genovevo, and Leana Alves. The Juniors are: Nicole Gebo, Lindsay Robillard, Lindsay Haluch, Kara Williamson, Sarah Davis, Liz Dyjak, Stephanie Santos, and Jessica Vital. The Sophomores are: Michele Goncalves, Lindsey Palatino, and Kirstine Goncalves. The Freshmen are: Natalie Gebo, Lauren Pereira, Beth Cochenour, Darcie Rickson, and Amy Rodrigues. The Head Coach is Jim Calheno, and he is assisted by Saul Chelo, Nuno Pereira, Melanie Pszeniczny, and Mario Monsalve. The managers are Melissa Santos and Elizabeth Barrow.

Mr. Speaker, once again, allow me to congratulate the Ludlow High School girls soccer team on a season well played. I wish them the best of luck for the 2000 season.

TRIBUTE TO DERRICK THOMAS

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of a leader beloved in my city and an athlete admired throughout our nation. Kansas City Chiefs #58, Linebacker Derrick Thomas, died February 8, 2000 at the age of 33. Derrick was a star for our nation. His philanthropic commitment is an inspiration to us all.

Derrick Thomas was an exceptional football player. He participated in nine pro bowls, more than any other player in the Chiefs franchise history. Derrick holds the team record for sacks and the most NFL sacks in a game. In December 1997, Derrick gained his 100th sack, 1 of 16 players in the entire NFL ever to achieve this. Team leaders regarded him as a player who could single handedly influence the outcome of a game. Derrick captured 10 playoff appearances and was the Chiefs Most Valuable Player in 1991 and 1994. As 8-time AFC Defensive Player of the Week, a club-record, his athletic brilliance reflects his love and commitment for the game.

Derrick has made a lasting impression on our community through his Third and Long Foundation, which encourages young students from the inner city to embrace the power of literacy. His moments shared in reading to children turned quickly to lasting friendships. Children have shared stories about Derrick's kindness, his dedication of time to help them with their academic needs, and his willingness to listen and be their friend and role model. His Foundation also assists families with their parenting and literacy skills. He has been recognized for these efforts by receiving numerous awards, including the prestigious 1993 Edge NFL Man of the Year and the 1995 Bryon

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

White Humanitarian Award for service to team, community, and country by the NFL Players Association. Former President Bush recognized his achievements by declaring him the "832nd Point of Light."

His father, Robert Thomas, was a role model who motivated and inspired him to excellence. While returning from a mission in Vietnam in December 1972, Air Force Captain Thomas was shot down. Derrick delivered the keynote address at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial during the 1993 Memorial Day remembrance ceremony in honor of his late father.

Derrick achieved many of his life long goals. He made a difference in our lives. We will always remember him. We will always remember his smile. May we learn from his tragic death the need to buckle up and in his memory remember each life is precious. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in saluting this incredible man and in extending condolences to Derrick's family, teammates, and friends.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ALPHONSE D. MANSI

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and recognize the many achievements and contributions of Mr. Alphonse D. Mansi. Mr. Mansi will be retiring in February from the Boeing Company, where his presence will be sincerely missed.

Mr. Mansi began his career with The Boeing Company in Philadelphia in 1960. After serving a four-year assignment under the United States Marine Corps, Mr. Mansi began in the Boeing manufacturing department. Mr. Mansi's skills and talents brought him to the Labor Relations department in 1962, where he has worked for close to forty years. Mr. Mansi has aided in the global expansion and successes of The Boeing Company by holding Labor Relations positions both in America and Canada.

Alphonse Mansi was appointed Director of Labor Relations activities within The Boeing Company in March of 1976. During his appointment, he was responsible for all of the labor relations within Boeing Defense & Space Group, Helicopters Division. Mr. Mansi's dedication and loyalty to The Boeing Company has been unparalleled and has stood as a model for fellow colleagues and peers. I would care to extend my congratulations to Mr. Mansi and thank him for all of his years of hard work and commitment.

HONORING RALPH LEON "SPEED" SHELEY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to pause and remember a man that will be missed by all those who knew him. Ralph "Speed" Sheley passed away on January 12, 2000. He was 80 years old.

Ralph was born on September 27, 1919 in Dove Creek, Colorado. Ralph spent his child-

hood in Kansas and Nebraska. When the United States entered World War II, Ralph was drafted in the Army where he served in the Signal Corps. Ralph was one of the first Americans in Hiroshima after the bombing. Our country is certainly indebted to him for his service and commitment to our country.

After the war, Ralph returned to Kansas, but moved shortly thereafter to Colorado. He met and married Billie Bradford in 1947 and in 1997, they celebrated 50 years of marriage. Ralph loved working in the orchards, farming, gardening, and spoiling his grandchildren and spending time with his family. Ralph always had a smile and a kind word of encouragement for everyone.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute in honor of Ralph "Speed" Sheley. He was a man who fought for his country and loved his family.

RECOGNIZING THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE CHAMPION LUDLOW HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER TEAM

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of the 1999 Ludlow High School boys soccer team. The Ludlow boys soccer team reclaimed the Massachusetts State title last November by trouncing their opponents from Needham 4-0. The Ludlow team finished the season with a record of 17-3-1, but their final game was their most impressive as they dominated Needham from start to finish. This team, like many Ludlow teams before it, played a skillful soccer style which allowed them to outplay virtually every opponent they faced.

Ludlow has been the heart of Western Massachusetts soccer for as long as anyone can remember. The town residents follow the high school teams with a fanaticism rarely seen in the United States, and during the 1990s, they have had a lot to cheer about. The Lions won the Western Massachusetts title five of the last six years, and won the state title in 1995, 1997, and 1999.

The success of the Ludlow boys soccer team can be linked directly to the coach. Head Coach Tony Goncalves has built a dominating program centered around skill and class. His knowledge of soccer is unparalleled in Western Massachusetts, and his coaching style is one that commands respect from his players, his opponents, and his fellow coaches. Coach Goncalves is quick to praise others, he is gracious in victory or defeat, and he is an inexhaustible resource for young coaches. He is the center of, and driving force behind, the success of the Ludlow High School boys soccer team.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to recognize here the players, coaches, and managers of the Ludlow High School boys soccer team of 1999. The players include Seniors Jonathan Witowski, Jason Chelo, Jason Dacruz, Justin Bruneau, John Reilly, Dave Fonseca, Dave Gwozd, Rich Zina, Kevin Crespo, and Dan M. Santos, and Juniors Joe Jorge, Jason Devlin, Steve Jorge, Helder Pires, Mike Pio, Brian Cochenour, Chris Chelo, Manny Goncalves,

Tim Romanski, Ray Cheria, Paul Martins, and Dennis Carvalho. The team is led by Head Coach Tony Goncalves, long time Assistant Coach Jack Vilaca, assistants Greg Kolodziej and Jonathan Cavallo, and managers Audrey Vilaca, Sarah Russell, Jennifer Russell, and Jillian Dube. Mr. Speaker, once again I am proud and honored to congratulate the 1999 Massachusetts State Champion boys soccer team from Ludlow High School in Ludlow, Massachusetts.

TRIBUTE TO JUDY PERRY

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize fellow Kansas Citian Judy Perry. Judy has served as the Executive Director of Harvesters Community Food Network in Kansas City, MO for the past 15 years. Harvesters has worked tirelessly to provide meals to less fortunate Kansas Citians and their families. Under Judy's direction Harvesters has tripled in size to serve twenty-six counties in Missouri and Kansas with more than 15 million pounds of food.

Judy's experience prior to her involvement with Harvesters was a Regional Administrator for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, which is a Congressionally chartered neighborhood revitalization program headquartered in Washington, DC. Her service has also brought her to Santiago, Chile with the Peace Corps where she taught English in a rural school. Judy's experiences in Chile sent her home with the whole new perspective on poverty and what Americans take for granted.

It is on the local level that we have truly seen Judy's dedication in her efforts to strengthen the bonds of our community. In addition to her work with Harvesters, Judy has served as chair of Mayor Richard Berkeley's Task Force on Food and Hunger. She has served as the co-chair of the Heart of America Hunger Network. She is currently the first vice-president of the Board of Directors of the Greater Kansas City Association of United Way Agencies. Judy also serves on the Board of Directors of Foodchain—The National Network of Prepared and Perishable Food Rescue Programs. I was honored to nominate Judy and Harvesters to receive the Congressional Award of the "Victory Against Hunger" campaign, which they were awarded in 1995.

Judy Perry is an inspiration to us all. Her dedication and commitment to public service serves as an example to all of us who work to make the world a better place. This month Judy will celebrate her 55th birthday with her retirement from harvesters. Judy plans to stay involved with the community and with hunger issues through volunteer and consulting work, and she hopes that someday she will return to the Peace Corps. Judy's immediate plan is to spend time with her four grandchildren. May she find relaxation and contentment in the adventures that await her. Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Judy for her service to our community and the Nation.

LOCAL BUSINESSMAN, TIM JONES, NAMED "CITIZEN OF THE YEAR" BY THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it comes as no surprise to the citizens of Carroll County, that one of their own, Tim Jones, has been singled out for the distinctive honor of being named the "Citizen of the Year," by the Carroll County Emergency Management Association of Georgia (EMAG).

Tim's long record of community involvement, and his outstanding contribution to improving response to emergency situations in this county, were spotlighted by EMA Director Tim Padgett, who has first hand experience of Jones' outstanding service which garnered him the top spot in the state.

I am proud to note that Tim is a personal friend, and that Carroll County and the Seventh Congressional District are fortunate indeed to have this civic-minded citizen as a friend to all. I am proud today to rise in congratulations to Tim Jones, as one of America's top citizens, and as the very best in the field of emergency management.

HONORING WORLD WAR II VETERAN, CLAUD WALKER GARNER JR.

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to pause and remember the life of a World War II veteran. Claud Walker Garner Jr. passed away on January 17, 2000.

Claud was born on April 30, 1920 in Goodnight, Texas. He joined the Army in 1937. As a Tech Sergeant with the Third Engineer Battalion, he served in Normandy, France, Rhineland and Ardennes Campaign. For his bravery and outstanding dedication, Claud was decorated with the Croix de Guerre, the silver star for service above and beyond the call of duty, four bronze service stars and the good conduct medal. Claud was honorably discharged on June 11, 1945.

Claud and his wife, Bernice, lived in Colorado for many years where Claud worked in the construction industry. He was the construction superintendent on the Cody, Wyoming Buffalo Bill Museum project.

Friends always were in abundance in Claud's life. He was a man of his word, highly principled and completely honest. When a friend needed someone to lean on, Claud was always there. Claud loved his wife and children and was a great husband and father. He will be missed by all who knew him.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute in honor of Claud Walker Garner Jr. He was a great American who fought on behalf of America's freedom.

RECOGNIZING THE SUPER BOWL CHAMPION, LONGMEADOW HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the unprecedented accomplishments of the 1999 Longmeadow High School football team. Longmeadow became the first Western Massachusetts team to win three straight titles. The Lancers captured the Division II Super Bowl with a 36-21 victory over Shrewsbury.

Longmeadow could not have asked for a better beginning as they scored on all five possessions in the first half. Running back Winston McGregor led the way with 162 yards rushing and three touchdowns. Quarterback Justin Vincent was impressive with 118 yards passing, and the Lancer defense shut out their opponents in the fourth quarter. As always, credit must be given to the linemen who gave Vincent the time to pick apart the Shrewsbury defense and McGregor the holes through which to run.

Longmeadow Head Coach Alex Rotsko has built an impressive program at Longmeadow. The Lancers, having now won three Super Bowls in a row, will be the odds on favorite in the coming season. Despite losing leaders like McGregor and Ryan McCarthy to graduation, Coach Rotsko will have his charges ready to defend their title once more, a situation with which the Lancers are intimately familiar.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored to congratulate the 1999 Longmeadow High School football team. Winning a title once is something to be remembered, but winning three in a row is the start of a dynasty. I wish Coach Rotsko and his Lancers the best of luck in the 2000 season, as they return once again to defend their Super Bowl title.

The Longmeadow High School football team is as follows: Colin Murphy, Sam Harris, Lee Cotton, Drew Sheehan, Tim Walsh, Justin Vincent, Tanner Williams, Dan McKenna, Mike Haberman, Justin Kent, Winston McGregor, Brian Wright, Jason Chew, Rob Shoen, David Singer, Ryan McCarthy, Steve Leone, Tom Meehan, Andrew Dikan, Ryan Devine, John Liro-Hudson, Ryan Horrigan, Brian Hubbard, Jeremy Stambovsky, Jayson Stambovsky, Ryan Foss, John Stewart, Mike Gallant, Brian Harr, Nat Brown, Luke Jenne, P.J. Ryan, Brian Askin, Mark Drost, Dan Mandell, Paul Collins, Andy Krill, Chris Nuzzo, Dan Richton, Jeff Viamari, Brian Dean, Mike Klein, Mike Bazos, Chris Basile, Chris Santa, Kevin Miller, Dan Lewis, Doug Hill, Mike Roche, Kevin Berte, Joe Mujalli, Josh Eldridge, Mike Viamari, Marcus Gaines, Jason Weinstein, Phil Casper, Josh Kurland, Bobby Goodwin, and Dan Morris. The Coaches are: Alex Rotsko, Andy Drummy, Nick St. George, James Crawford, Craig Epstein, Doug Cropper, Shane Biggins, Mike Tanner, and Devron McCummings.

TRIBUTE TO HARVEY J. McDONALD, JR.

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of fellow Kansas Citian, Harvey J. McDonald, Jr., who lost his battle with cancer early this year. The passing of this exceptional man leaves us with a great sense of sadness and grief. Harvey, or "Bud" as his friends called him, will best be remembered for his integrity and loyalty to others.

Harvey graduated from Southwest High School in 1973 where he played football for the Southwest Indians who won the State championship during his senior year. A proud member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union No. 124 for 20 years, Harvey demonstrated an outstanding commitment as a representative and advocate for union concerns. Harvey also influenced the lives of many of Kansas City's youth as a Raytown Little League coach. His driving motivation was present in everything he did.

Harvey was cherished and loved by all of his friends and family and will be sorely missed. He was truly an inspiration for all who knew him and were touched by his dedicated spirit. Loyalty, kindness, and integrity were hallmarks of his character. Along with many others from our region and across the Nation, I mourn the death of this outstanding man.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending sympathy to his wife—Esther, son—Matthew, and the entire McDonald family.

TRIBUTE TO THE SUMMERVILLE NEWS

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a publication that, for the past 114 years, has exemplified the important role filled by community newspapers in cities and towns across America. The City of Summerville is located in Chattooga County, in the Seventh District of Georgia. This rural county of approximately 25,000 residents, is home to "The Summerville News." Just last month, the Summerville News started into its 115th year of service to Chattooga County and the surrounding area of northwest Georgia. The newspaper is the oldest consumer business in the county. It started with presses fed with paper a single sheet at a time, by hand, to larger letterpress, and then to offset presses that run 16,000 papers an hour.

Over the years, the Summerville News has come a long way. O.J. Espy bought into the News around 1906, and purchased the entire newspaper about five years later, in 1911. After his death, his son, D.T. Espy, bought out all of his siblings (there were quite a few) to become sole owner. He, in turn, sold to his four sons, Bill, Don, David, and Gene, in 1968. Since that time, Bill and Don have died and a fourth generation is part owner, with others working at the plant. Greg Espy, son of Don,

is part owner; Tracy Espy, son of David, and Jason Espy, son of Gene, are all working with the News to print a product of which the entire county can be proud and look forward to every Thursday.

In thanking the community for 114 years of friendship, Editor Gene Espy wrote: "In a way, a community newspaper is the community. It is the news of the people in that community and what they have accomplished, failed to accomplish, and hope to accomplish. We take the task of publishing the Summerville News seriously. It is important to us and we hope it is important to our readers and advertisers and the community itself."

The Summerville News is to be congratulated on its 114 years of dedication and service to the citizens of Chattooga County. Babies have been born, dear citizens have died, world leaders have come and gone, wars have been fought and won, businesses have opened and closed, many left the farms to find employment in other cities, technology continues to advance, and still our community thrives. Through it all, the citizens of Chattooga County continue to count on The Summerville News for local, state and national news; every week, every year, every generation. Thank goodness.

HONORING MARK ACHEN UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a man who has dedicated over 16 years of his life to the City of Grand Junction, Colorado. Mark Achen has given immeasurably and made great personal sacrifices to ensure Grand Junction's health and well-being.

Since 1984, Mark has been the City Manager of Grand Junction and has seen the city grow and prosper. Working with seven different city council members who each had a different agenda and policy perspective was no small chore. Mark's calm demeanor stood out amid contentious debate over Grand Junction's numerous issues, including still, annexation policy in the late 1980's and into the 1990's. He was a reservoir of institutional knowledge during negotiations to end a long-running dispute between the city and Mesa County over the Persigo Wash Wastewater Treatment Plant. Achen brought the city from economic devastation to incredible increases in sales tax revenues.

Leaving the position of City Manager will enable Mark to spend more time reading, hiking, climbing, fishing and boating. Above all, Mark will get to spend more time with his family and friends.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute and say thank you to, my friend, Mark Achen. He is a man that has given selflessly for many years to make Grand Junction the wonderful city it is today.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MR. HARRY C. PASINI

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Mr. Pasini having been selected for Senior Executive Service, United States Army, has served as a Department of Defense Employee for thirty-two years; and,

Whereas, Mr. Pasini's untiring and dedicated service to his profession has resulted in his appointment to Senior Executive Service; and,

Whereas, Mr. Pasini was instrumental in the fielding of several new Army weapon systems and as a result of his professionalism, steadfast dedication, expertise, interpersonal skills and personal commitment to the Department of Defense, Mr. Pasini has been able to place the most advanced and capable weapons systems in the hands of our nation's soldiers; and,

Whereas, the Members of Congress, with a real sense of gratitude and pride, join me in commending Mr. Harry C. Pasini for his appointment to Senior Executive Service.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH J. WOOD

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man whose life has benefited all members of the automotive and aerospace industries, Joseph J. Wood. Mr. Wood will soon be retiring from the United Automobile, Aerospace Agricultural Implementation Workers of America (UAW). For nearly forty years, Mr. Wood has worked tirelessly to ensure the fair and just treatment of union members in several fields of business.

Joseph J. Wood is an International Representative with the UAW working from his home base in Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Wood began his career with the Union while employed with Boeing Helicopters located in my district of Ridley Township, Pennsylvania.

He was hired by the Boeing Helicopters Division in March of 1960 after receiving an Honorable Discharge from the Marine Corps. He became active within UAW Local 1069 and rose through the union's leadership as Shop Steward, Committeeman, Shop Chairman and then was elected President. In 1985 the UAW International Union appointed Mr. Wood to serve on the UAW National Aerospace Staff to service Local 1069 (Boeing Helicopters Division), Bell Textron Helicopter local unions 218 and 317 and GE Local 647. Mr. Wood's efforts brought out successful contract negotiations between both sides. Throughout his career, Mr. Wood's representation of working families has always been exemplary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in a tribute to Joseph J. Wood for his selfless dedication to his community and his country. I congratulate Joe, and I know his family must be very proud of his years of dedicated service.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2000

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a few moments to highlight the importance of a bill we further considered on the floor today, H.R. 1451, the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act.

This bill originally passed the House by a vote of 411-2 on October 4, 1999. It was amended by the Senate in November and brought back to the House with minor changes to the commission's composition.

Let me begin by thanking the bill's sponsor, the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. LAHOOD, and the gentlelady from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) for their willingness to work with me to include representation from the states of Indiana and Kentucky on the Commission to be formed by this bill.

Indiana and Kentucky played significant roles in the life and development of Abraham Lincoln, and I very much appreciate my colleagues' recognition of this history and their openness to including citizen members from each of these states on the Commission.

I am pleased that the changes made by the Senate to the composition of the commission did not include a fundamental I have been fighting for: the appropriate representation on the commission from each of the states claiming Lincoln as its citizen.

While Abe Lincoln is America's 16th president, he rose from humble roots deeply embedded in all three Midwestern states. In my mind, it is only right that the governors of all three states select citizens to sit on the commission established by this bill.

The commission will commemorate the bicentennial of President Lincoln's birth in 1809, which took place in Hodgenville, KY.

At the age of 7, young Abe Lincoln moved to Southern Indiana, and the family moved to Illinois in 1830. As the National Park Service points out at the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, he spent fourteen of the most formative years of his life and grew from youth to manhood in the State of Indiana. His mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, is buried at the site. And even today, what is probably the largest private Lincoln Museum in America is in Fort Wayne, IN, in my district.

Thomas Lincoln moved the family to an 80 acre farm in Perry County, Indiana after the crops had failed in Kentucky due to unusually cold weather. He bought the land at what even then was the bargain price of three dollars an acre.

Just days before, Indiana had become the 19th state in the union. The land was still wild and untamed. President Lincoln later recalled that he had "never passed through a harder experience" than traveling through the woods and brush between the ferry landing on the Ohio river and his Indiana homesite. This observation speaks volumes about the nature of the Hoosier frontier.

The family quickly settled into the log cabin with which we are all so familiar from our earliest history lessons. Tom Lincoln worked as a cask maker. Abe Lincoln worked hard during the days clearing the land, working with the

crops, and reading over and over from his three books: the Bible, Dilworth's Speller, and Aesop's Fables. He also wrote poems.

Shortly after the death of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, young Abe attended a new one room schoolhouse. When his father remarried, his new stepmother Sally Bush Johnston brought four new books, including an elocution book.

W. Fred Conway pointed out in his book "Young Abe Lincoln: His Teenage Years in Indiana" that the future president after reading the book occasionally "would disappear into the woods, mount a stump, and practice making speeches to the other children."

Abraham Lincoln also received his first exposure to politics and the issues that would later dominate his presidency while in Indiana. One of his first jobs was at a general store and meat market, which was owned by William Jones, whose father owned slaves in violation of the Indiana State Constitution. This was Lincoln's first introduction to slavery.

In addition, he exchanged news and stories with customers and passersby, with the store eventually become a center of the community due largely to Young Abe's popularity. Once he was asked what he expected to make of himself, and replied that he would "be President of the United States."

Mr. Speaker, Indiana takes pride in its contributions to the life of President Lincoln, and we greatly look forward to the work of the Commission in honoring him and reminding Americans of his legacy.

HONORING PAUL EDWARD SHUEY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember the life of a man that will be missed by many people. Paul Edward Shuey passed away on January 17, 2000.

Paul grew up in Pennsylvania, from grade school to college. He worked for West Penn Power Company until he met Ernestine Gigax of Grand Junction, Colorado. Paul and Ernestine had two children together. Tragically, Ernestine passed away during labor with their third child.

Paul enlisted into the United States Navy in 1942. He served in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater and Philippine Liberation as an Electrician's Mate 2nd class. He was honorably discharged in 1945.

While he lived in Colorado, he was employed by Sweet Candy Company. The sweet must have worked as he married Lucy Chiaro in Grand Junction in 1953. In 1959, Paul moved his family again to Salt Lake City, Utah, to be a sales manager for the Sweet Company. He retired in 1982 and lived in San Diego, California until his death.

Paul was a fourth degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council #1062 in Grand Junction. He was very dedicated to his faith and loved singing in the choir. Paul liked to play tennis, take care of his garden and smoke his pipe.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I offer this tribute in honor of Paul Shuey. He was a great man who loved life to the fullest.

A TRIBUTE TO JEAN MCNEIL

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, Alexis de Toqueville once said that America was great because her people were good. Today I have the honor to pay tribute to one of these truly good people.

Earlier around noon today, Jean McNeil of Wichita, KS, died. Jean was a wonderful woman. She had a laugh and smile that made you feel warm and safe. She was humble and kind, quiet and compassionate. Why was Jean so good? Because she loved. Her love permeated all who knew her; it enveloped her children and grandchildren, and touched all who were blessed to call her a friend.

One cannot remember Jean without remembering the times she would simply sit back and laugh at someone's story, encourage her grandson Tony to perform just one more magic trick, or make a pithy comment about some politician who had lost his way. Although Jean was kind, she had a passionate side. Her anger could be aroused, but only in the most serious of circumstances, and those usually involved a loss for her beloved Kansas Jayhawks.

St. Francis once said that we should preach the Gospel every day, and when necessary use words. Like St. Francis, Jean lived less by her talk than by her walk. You saw Christ within her in her kindness, her gentleness, her constancy and yes, her humility. Each of us is thankful for the time we had with Jean. I am sure her friends at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church would agree.

Mr. Speaker, life is such a precious gift. It is so special that often we fail to consider it. Our founders enshrined this gift in our Declaration of Independence as the first right. Back in 1994 Jean's daughter, Charlotte, her husband, Tom and their five kids, Andy, Emily, Mike, Paul, and Tony probably did not fully consider the value of each other's life. But, when Tom went down in his private plane that year, each of their lives changed, forever. Tom, Mike, and Paul crossed the threshold of Heaven that day, but Charlotte, Jean and the surviving children remained: left to make sense of it all.

Some questions are not easily put to rest, but for Jean the question of life was simple: respect it.

There is much disagreement on the floor of this great body, about whose life should be protected in law, but Jean was never confused. The great Chairman, HERRY HYDE, could have been talking about her when he reflected on the moment when each of us will appear before our Creator to account for our lives. He said:

I really think that those in the Pro-Life Movement will not be alone. I think there will be a chorus of voices that have never been heard in this world, but are heard very beautifully and very loudly in the next world. And, I think they will plead for everyone who had been in the movement. They will say to God: "Spare them, because they loved us." And God will look at us and say not, "Did you succeed" but, "did you try?"

Mr. Speaker, today, the Chorus in Heaven just became a bit louder. Rock Chalk, Jean.

JOSEPH THEODORE'S GOOD WORKS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, last year, too late for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for 1999, I received a very inspiring packet of material from a resident of South Dartmouth, MA, Joseph Theodore, Jr. As the accompanying article from the New Bedford Standard Times points out, Mr. Theodore decided nearly 30 years ago to respond to the anguish that our country was undergoing as a result of the debate over the war in Vietnam by flying a flag 24 hours a day from a very prominent spot in the city of New Bedford, which I am privileged to represent. As the column by Hank Seaman notes, every day since 1971, a total of 341 flags—"which had draped the coffins of SouthCoast servicemen, have flown from the former fire station observation spire overlooking Route 1-195" in New Bedford. In addition to his wonderful gesture with regard to the permanently flying, illuminated American flag, Mr. Theodore has devoted his efforts to calling attention to the 44-year-old U.N. Peace Tree. Mr. Theodore three years ago called attention to this tree, which had been planted by 25 New Bedford residents in 1955, as a symbol of dedication to world peace. At a time when some have unfairly doubted the importance of the United Nations, I think it is worth some attention that thanks to Mr. Theodore's efforts, the city of New Bedford has re-dedicated this tree as a symbol of our hopes for world peace.

John Doherty's article from the New Bedford Standard Times describes the impressive ceremony in which Mayor Frederick Kalisz, Jr. and members of St. Paul's Methodist Church congregation joined Mr. Theodore in rededicating the tree.

Mr. Speaker, the efforts of Mr. Theodore to celebrate our country through the permanently illuminated American flag, and to reaffirm our dedication to world peace with the U.N. playing an important part, are good examples of how a citizen can take actions which bring out the best in us. I commend Mr. Theodore's example to others and hope that it may be an inspiration to people elsewhere in the country and submit the aforementioned article for the RECORD.

HOMETOWN SNAPSHOTS

(By Hank Seaman)

If ever New Bedford has had a super patriot, Joe Theodore is the one.

The man is so committed to the concept of love of country that he'd like to see a United States flag fly from every public building and private home—at all times.

"In the 1960s and early '70s the Vietnam war was tearing this country apart. I was ashamed * * * angered * * * saddened by the division. I thought the country was dying. I wanted to do something to encourage our fighting men, and promote peace and unity at home."

He hit upon the idea of flying a flag 24 hours a day—"Illuminated from dusk to dawn with a light for peace"—in what is now known as Old Glory Tower.

Every day since 1971, a total of 341 flags—which had draped the coffins of South Coast servicemen—have flown from the former fire station observation spire overlooking Route 1-195.

All thanks to Joseph Theodore Jr.

Better still, over the years, many American communities have started to follow New Bedford's lead, and now illuminate flags above their own public buildings.

But the retired New Bedford wiring inspector would love to go one step further. If he had his way, every nation's flag would be similarly lighted.

"My No. 1 goal is to get the United Nations to illuminate each country's flag." Not only in the United Nations, he emphasizes, but over every national capitol as well. "I want to illuminate every flag, everywhere, with lights for world peace."

A lofty objective?

Certainly.

But it is fueled by one man's genuine desire for global harmony and love of country. And he comes by this love honestly, he maintains.

"Uncle Sam grabbed me the day I got drafted for World War II * * * and he's never let go."

And while the self-described "just a little guy from New Bedford" downplays his four years of U.S. Army infantry duty with the 26th Yankee Division during WWII, his two Purple Hearts tell a different story.

Anyone wounded twice when two different vehicles were blasted out from beneath him by land mines is a pretty big man by anyone's yardstick. And when you couple that with how Joe Theodore went on to become an unwitting eyewitness to history in three entirely different—though equally impressive—ways, it does nothing but improve his statute.

One proud memory was his time spent as President Truman's unofficial bodyguard at the Potsdam Conference in July 1945. His job was to chauffeur the secret service group charged with protecting the president for the nearly month-long series of historic meetings with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet Premier Josef Stalin.

"I would see President Truman and Winston Churchill nearly every day," he recounted. And when he got one glimpse—however brief—of the highly protected Soviet premiere, as well, he calculated he was one of the few American GIs to do so.

That month-long Potsdam stint, however, is perhaps the only period of Joe Theodore's entire WWII experience that is not equated with horror and sadness.

Whether inspecting Hitler's underground bunker in Berlin mere weeks after the end mad architect of World War II committed suicide, or reacting to the repugnance of naked bodies piled high in the concentration camps, Mr. Theodore viewed some strange, horrible sights.

"Many things I'd like to forget," he adds softly.

Even more than he could possibly have known at the time, these experiences instilled a revulsion to war that has only deepened with the passage of time. "Wars are stupid. We simply have to learn to live with one another. Today we are friends. Tomorrow, we're killing each other."

And he has been on a quest for peace—and the illumination of flags—every since.

"I'm living two lives," Mr. Theodore explains. "One for my family (his wife of 58 years, Hilda, their two children, and one grandson), the other for Uncle Sam."

Having seen the carnage of war firsthand, his rationale is simple. "When I saw those piles of naked bodies I didn't know whether they were Jewish, Polish, German * * * or even American * * * All I knew was they were human rights beings." He shakes his head sadly.

"That was enough."

[From the New Bedford Standard Times]

(By John Doherty)

NEW BEDFORD—City officials and members of the St. Paul's Methodist Church congregation hope the United Nations takes notice of a small ceremony held last night.

St. Paul's congregants joined Mayor Frederick M. Kalisz Jr. last night in lighting a "peace tree" at the church on the corner of Rockdale Avenue and Kempton Street.

The tree, a stately ginkgo, was planted 44 years ago as part of a worldwide observance of the formation of the United Nations.

"This will alert all people who enter the city from the west side of the dream of peace we all share," said the Rev. Dogba Bass, of St. Paul's.

Several of the schoolchildren—grown now, of course—who participated in the planting of the ginkgo in 1955 were present at the lighting ceremony last night.

The tree, strung with 200 white bulbs, is scheduled to stay lighted through the rest of 1999, and is one of the features of the planned millennium celebration in New Bedford.

The city was one of about 200 communities designated a Millennium City by the White House.

Joseph Theodore, a member of American Legion Post 1 in New Bedford, originally pushed for the lighting.

In remarks last night, he likened the lighting of the tree to another tradition that began in New Bedford.

The first American flag lit up at night as a symbol of peace was lit in New Bedford.

Now, American flags around the country and at U.S. embassies worldwide follow the example set here.

Trees were planted all over the world in observance of the formation of the UN, said Mr. Theodore, and it is not unimaginable to think the lighting at St. Paul's last night could be duplicated elsewhere.

MAYOR TO LIGHT 44-YEAR-OLD UNITED NATIONS PEACE TREE

NEW BEDFORD—Mayor Frederick M. Kalisz Jr. and The Rev. Dogba R. Bass of St. Paul's United Methodist Church will participate in a tree lighting ceremony this evening, to mark the 44th anniversary of the United Nations Peace Tree located in New Bedford's West End.

The peace tree, which stands in front of St. Paul's United Methodist Church at Kempton Street and Rockdale Avenue, was planted in 1955 by children of the congregation to commemorate the 10th anniversary of "U.N. Charter Day," or "World Order Day."

Chartered Oct. 24, 1945, the United Nations offered hope as a new forum for resolving conflicts before they escalated into war.

Mayor Kalisz is lighting the peace tree as part of the city's millennium celebrations, the theme of which is "illumination," Mayor Kalisz said. "The children of St. Paul's Methodist Church gathered on this very spot to plant this tree as a gesture of hope that all governments would join the United Nations and work toward world peace."

The suggestion to incorporate the event into the city's millennium celebrations was made by Joseph Theodore Jr., a longtime Americanism officer for New Bedford Post 1 American Legion.

Director of Tourism Arthur P. Motta Jr. researched the tree, a Ginkgo, and said it is a rare and ancient species that dates back to the Permian Period of the Paleozoic Era, some 230 million years ago.

"The Ginkgo survives today because the Buddhist Monks of northern China considered it to be sacred, cultivating it in their temple gardens," said Motta. "Because of its high resistance to disease and its medical

value, the Ginkgo has been referred to as the "Tree of Life."

Several of the children who participated in the original ceremony in 1955 are expected to attend the event. The ceremony will take place on today at 6 p.m.

JOHN V. WELLS, PH.D., DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR FOR RAILROAD ISSUES ON THE GROUND TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE, TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a special member of the staff of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Jack Wells, who is leaving us this week to accept an appointment as Deputy Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration. On behalf of the Committee, I am pleased to express our gratitude to Jack for his effective and loyal service, and valued friendship.

Jack has served on the Committee—and its predecessor, the Committee on Public Works and Transportation—since 1993, initially as the Staff Director of our Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee, and more recently as the Democratic Staff Director in charge of railroad issues on our Ground Transportation Subcommittee. As our resident expert on rail issues, Jack has been indispensable to me and all of the Members on our side of the aisle, advising us on rail safety, mergers and competition issues, and ensuring the survival of Amtrak's fair treatment of employees, and the development of high speed rail. Jack has the rare ability to explore problems in great depth, while never losing sight of the overriding basic issues involved. His briefing memos were models of outstanding staff work.

In the 104th Congress, Jack worked on the Interstate Commerce Commission Termination Act of 1995, which abolished the ICC, and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Amendments Act of 1996, which increased daily unemployment benefits for railroad workers. In the 105th Congress, he worked on the AMTRAK Reform and Accountability Act of 1997 and the rail title of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). During his tenure, he drafted several bills dealing with railroad safety, labor and competition.

Jack Wells, a native of Wilmington, Delaware, received his Bachelors Degree from Harvard and Ph.D. in Economics from Yale University. He originally came to the Committee from the United States General Accounting Office where he was the Assistant Director for Surface Transportation Infrastructure Issues. His expertise and reporting at GAO involved overall transportation policy, trucking competition and deregulation issues, antitrust and science technology policy, and general economics issues.

Of direct interest to our Committee, Jack did a lot of the leading studies and analysis on airline deregulation and airline HUB issues. GAO routinely recognized Jack's abilities with meritorious service and outstanding performance awards. I remember reviewing Jack's

resume which covered six pages—he did indeed need that much room just to get everything in—and being truly impressed with the multitude of official reports and publications Jack produced—extraordinary diversity that made him a perfect candidate to head up the Committee's investigations and oversight activities. Also, he has a wide range of teaching experience at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

While carrying out his heavy congressional workload, Jack has also been actively involved in his community as a PTA treasurer, and a member of the Victorian Lyric Opera Company, and has supported his daughters' athletic activities. Jack has such a breadth of experience that the label "Jack-of-all-trades" aptly applies.

I join with Jack's many friends in wishing him, his lovely wife Heidi Hartman, and daughters Katharine, Laura and Jessica, all the best. Jack, Godspeed and success in your career pursuits.

1999 PENROSE CITIZEN OF THE
YEAR, GARY SCHENCK

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the 1999 Penrose Citizen of the Year, Mr. Gary Schenck.

Gary received this honor from the Penrose Chamber of Commerce because of the manage things he has done to improve his community. He always presents a very positive picture of Penrose. He volunteered hundreds of hours at the Chamber of Commerce since 1996. He is also very active with the Penrose Community Library and the Fremont Contractors Association. In addition, he has assisted in fund raising for the Penrose Volunteer Fire Department. Gary has recently held free classes for senior citizens who want to learn about the Internet.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I offer this tribute of thanks and congratulations to Mr. Gary Schenck. The community of Penrose is better because of him.

ANDY PAPPAS, ONE OF
ALTOONA'S GREATEST ASSETS

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and fellow public servant, Mr. Andronic Pappas. Andy passed away last Friday at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, following a brief illness.

Andy was born in Altoona, PA, and to the betterment of central Pennsylvania he never left. Instead, Andy through his love of his hometown community made Altoona a better place to live, work, and raise a family. He graduated from Altoona High School, served his country during the Korean conflict, and later served as mayor and elected councilman

of Altoona, but this is only the beginning of Andy's contribution to our community. He went on to serve as Democratic Committee Chairman, Chairman of the Altoona City Authority, Regional Director for the State Department of Commerce, President of the Blairmont Country Club, President of the Blair County Arts Foundation, and President of the Wehwood PTA, to name a few. In his spare time he managed to earn a bachelor of arts degree from Penn State University, dabble in local theater, radio, and television at the same time building a highly successful real estate company.

Andy and I have worked hand-in-hand on numerous projects throughout the Blair County area and I had come to rely on his insight and council regarding local interests. His dedication to the community has raised the bar on what it means to serve the public. His life long commitment to Altoona will not soon be forgotten.

Anyone who knew Andy, knew of his great love for his family, his wife Jographia, his two daughters Elena and Zoe, and his two grandsons Michael and Stephen James. Mr. Speaker, I will close by paying tribute to the life of Mr. Andy Pappas, my friend, may he rest in peace.

TRIBUTE TO DEXTER McCLEON

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dexter McCleon of Meridian, MS. Dexter was an integral part of the St. Louis Rams' road to victory in the 2000 Super Bowl.

While at the Meridian High School, Dexter earned consensus All-American honors and was selected as the Super Prep Dixie Player of the Year. Like so many of the great athletes in Mississippi, Dexter showed athletic prowess on both the football field and the baseball diamond. He amassed over 1,500 yards passing and more than 500 yards passing while maintaining a batting average of .395 with 11 home runs and 56 runs batted in.

Dexter's persistence and determination led him to the St. Louis Rams as the 40th selection of the 1997 draft. Dexter has quickly become a cornerstone of one of the NFL's most feared defensive backfields. As one of the league's great emerging cover corners, Dexter's 1999 statistics read like those of many NFL Hall of Fame inductees.

Dexter's hard work and dedication to purpose reflect Mississippi's record as one of the premier proving grounds for high school athletes. By continuing this dedication and work ethic throughout his life, this young man will succeed in all of his future endeavors.

I want to commend Dexter on his work as one of the emerging professional football stars from the State of Mississippi. I would also like to commend Dexter for being a worthy ambassador for our great State. It is my distinct pleasure to be able to congratulate Dexter on his Super Bowl victory.

HONORING MRS. MARILYN LANCE,
NEW YORK STATE TEACHER OF
THE YEAR

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor New York State's Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Marilyn Lance of East Greenbush, New York. Mrs. Lance surpassed nearly sixty other candidates to win the highly coveted award, which is affiliated with the national Teacher of the Year program. Mrs. Lance is the first Capitol Region teacher to win the award in twenty four years.

Marilyn Lance has dedicated the last 27 years to upholding the hopes and dreams of hundreds of children in the Averill Park Central School District. Optimism and positive vibes permeate from her classroom. She believes every child can achieve and provide the spark required to ignite their creativity, imagination and interest. Children embrace her caring demeanor and rise to meet her high academic standards.

Mrs. Lance brings a special set of skills into her class of first and second graders. She never asks a child to do something they can't do and has a knack for bringing out the best in every student.

Student success is her top priority. Her reward is seeing students grow and learn. She truly cares about each and every student. Mrs. Lance meets their needs at every level: educational, emotional, and spiritual. Children in her class are treated with respect and learn the value of kindness and decency. I commend her efforts to provide a rich, intellectually stimulating environment in which children learn the vital skills required to be successful in our society.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Marilyn Lance on her selection as New York State Teacher of the Year. Also, please join me in wishing her the very best of luck in the upcoming National Teacher of the Year competition.

JOHN PORTER WINNER OF THE
WAYNE N. ASPINALL WATER
LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the winner of the 2000 Wayne N. Aspinall Water Leader of the Year Award, Mr. John Porter.

Water is a very important issue to the State of Colorado. Coloradans have to be very sensitive to issues dealing with water and water rights, to ensure that those rights are protected. This award represents a person who has dealt with water issues to the best of his ability to ensure the best interests of Colorado water.

John Porter has been the General Manager of the Dolores Water Conservancy District since 1982. As a result of John's management of the District and the Project, the Dolores Project is one of the most efficient water

projects in the Upper Colorado Region. From developing programs to save water for irrigators, to developing trust between competing interests, John has always had a positive outlook and a willingness to discuss the issues, no matter how difficult.

John Porter has devoted his life to water interests, first as a farmer, and for the last eighteen years as Manager of the Dolores Water Conservancy District. John's commitment to the beneficial use and conservation of Colorado's water resources has garnered him a well deserved reputation as a "water leader" in the State of Colorado.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute in honor of Mr. John Porter. He is most deserving of the honor of the Wayne N. Aspinall Water Leader of the Year.

TRIBUTE TO CARETAKERS OF THE ENVIRONMENT INTERNATIONAL

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I can think of no better way to safeguard the world's natural resources than to arm today's youth with the tools necessary to preserve our precious environment.

That's exactly the mission of Caretakers of the Environment International, a Pied Piper of sorts that leads youth along with a path of environmental awareness and activism. Young people from around the world answer the call of this nonprofit organization. They are taught the scientific lessons and practical skills to become environmental leaders.

A hallmark of the organization's activities each year is its annual conference where the host country becomes a laboratory to explore the conference theme. Past conferences have probed such environmental themes as the "Arctic and the Environment," "Development and Research in Environmental Education," and "Tourism and the Environment." Costa Rica's tropical ecosystems were the backdrop last year for the 13th annual conference where 122 highly motivated students and teachers learned through workshops, field trips and social activities. Delegates visited rainforests, volcanoes and Pacific Ocean beaches to learn about biodiversity from expert guides.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Caretakers of the Environment-USA, an American affiliate of the international group. Caretakers/USA reaches out to high school students and teachers—with diverse interests and abilities—and involves them in community action that develops a spirit of national and international cooperation for environmental problem solving.

Undoubtedly, Caretakers' efforts to improve science education encourage young people to pursue environmental careers that will help protect the world's environment. Mr. Speaker, I applaud the activities of Caretakers of the Environment and hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting its efforts.

THE MUD DUMP PERMANENT CLOSURE AND REMEDIATION ACT OF 2000

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to protect New Jersey's oceans and beaches from continued ocean dumping of harmful substances.

Just a few miles off the coast of Sandy Hook lies an area that—after years of protracted debate and political maneuvering—was appropriately designated as the Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS). The designation was made to protect the site from the future dumping of toxic dredged mud. It was July, 1996 when vice President Gore Triumphantly announced that the dumping would stop and the site—affectionately called the old Mud Dump—would be cleaned up with clean dredge material.

Unfortunately, we now know that the 1996 announcement was not an iron clad commitment to end ocean dumping of toxic sludge. In a betrayal of our trust, the Clinton Administration's Army Corps of engineers has approved permits allowing Castle Astoria Terminals, Inc., and Brooklyn Marine Terminals, to dump dredge materials that actually contain higher levels of contamination (including toxic PAHs and PCBs) than the stuff already in the Mud Dump.

Mr. Speaker, common sense dictates that you cannot clean up something by capping it with a substance dirtier than the original mess. Unfortunately, the "category 1" standards in use by the Army Corps and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are so insufficient that using the dredged mud from the Castle Astoria and Brooklyn Marine Terminals to remediate the HRS is like trying to clean an oil spill by pouring nuclear waste on top of it. It will only make a bad situation even worse.

Fortunately, the interests of keeping New Jersey's and New York's ports open, and protecting the environment and New Jersey's multi-billion dollar tourist industry, are not mutually exclusive. The people of New Jersey and New York need both the shipping and tourist industries to be healthy if our high standard of living is to be preserved. There are new ways to treat and decontaminate dredged materials so they are truly clean and pose no threat to the environment. New Jersey has been very proactive in trying to find creative ways of disposing of dredged materials so we can avoid the need to dump at sea. For example, dredged materials have been used in Elizabeth to cap a brownfields site and turn a deserted eyesore into a productive, job creating waterfront mall.

The problem, however, is that the State of New York has done virtually nothing to look beyond ocean dumping for its dredging needs. Every objective, outside observer of the ocean dumping fight admits that New York is not pulling its own weight. And the bottom line is that as long as New York can easily and cheaply use the Jersey Shore as a dumping ground for its dredged soil, New York will never have any incentive to look for real alternatives.

I mean to change that. Under the legislation I am introducing today, an immediate ban will

be placed on any existing ocean dumping permits at the Mud Dump to be issued by the Army Corps until new remediation standards are in place.

The bill also requires the EPA, within 90 days of enactment, to formulate a new set of remediation standards. These remediation standards were promised to New Jerseyans in 1996, but four years later, they have still to be issued. We have waited long enough for these standards to be promulgated. It is time for the EPA to act to protect the health of our oceans and beaches.

In addition, my legislation sets forth basic principles that the EPA must follow when developing and proposing new remediation material standards.

First, the actual level of contaminants (including PAHs and PCBs) in the remediation material must be significantly lower than the Mud Dump pollutants it is to be used to cover. Sadly, under the current and deeply flawed EPA "Category 1 standards," pollutant levels in proposed dredge spoils can actually exceed by many orders of magnitude the levels found in the material at the Mud Dump.

Second, the remediation material used at the Mud Dump must actually reduce pollution levels there.

Third, the remediation material must be shown to reduce the harmful impacts on the environment and marine life caused by the toxins found in the Mud Dump. It bears noting that the reason the HARS was created was not to provide the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey with an unlimited dumping ground. The HARS was created to remediate and clean up the toxins on the ocean floor and prevent harmful bioaccumulation of toxins in the seafood we eat.

Fourth, the new remediation standards must meet 'sunshine laws' that provide opportunities for a public notice and a public comment period. This provision is needed because the Army Corps issued the Brooklyn Marine Terminals permit without providing adequate public notice for comment. On January 24th, 2000, the Army Corps recognized its failure to provide adequate public comment and held a public meeting in New Jersey.

Fifth, the goal of the new remediation standards is to eventually clean up the Mud Dump to reflect a contamination level that is substantially equivalent to the level found naturally in the ocean. Given the amount of debate over what the EPA defines as "clean," it is important to set clear and common sense goals of what the word "clean" really means—restoring the oceans to their natural state. Only when consumers of seafood are reassured that the fish they eat are free from pollutants will the damage from ocean dumping be fully remediated.

Lastly, the bill would permanently close the Mud Dump as soon as it is fully remediated and capped with a clean layer of sand and silt that prevents existing pollution at the bottom of the ocean from finding its way into our food chain. If the economy of New York and New Jersey are to remain vibrant and healthy, we need to continue exploring alternative dredge disposal methods now. The costs of inaction greatly outweigh the additional costs of alternative disposal methods when one factors in the \$14.8 billion tourist and commercial fishing industry in New Jersey that will be seriously harmed if ocean dumping continues unabated.

TRIBUTE TO SILVIA PINAL

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the 1999 "Mr. Amigo," Silvia Pinal, chosen recently by the Mr. Amigo Association of Brownsville, Texas, and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, in Mexico. Each year the Mr. Amigo Association honors a Mexican citizen with the title of "Mr. Amigo," and that person acts as a goodwill ambassador between our two countries. Their selection honors a man or woman who has made a lasting contribution to international solidarity and goodwill at the annual Charro Days Festival.

The Charro Days Festival is a pre-Lenten event, much like Mardi Gras in New Orleans, held in Brownsville and Matamoros. Charro Days festivities will last for several days; this year they will be February 23–27 and will include parades and appearances by Ms. Pinal. Charro Days is an opportunity to enjoy the unique border culture of the Rio Grande Valley area.

During Charro Days, South Texans celebrate the food, music, dances and traditions of both the United States and Mexico. The U.S.-Mexican border has a unique, blended history of cowboys, bandits, lawmen, farmers, fishermen, oil riggers, soldiers, scientists, entrepreneurs, and teachers.

The border has its own language and customs. On both sides of the border, there is a deep sense of history, much of which the border has seen from the front row. We have seen war and peace; we have known prosperity and bad times. Charro Days is a time for all of us to reflect on our rich history, to remember our past and to celebrate our future. The Mr. Amigo Award began in 1964 as an annual tribute to an outstanding Mexican citizen.

The 1999 Mr. Amigo, Ms. Pinal, has a career in film, television and music, and, recently, in public service, serving as a Senator for District 27 in Mexico City since 1998. She is also a philanthropist and a champion of women's rights. Born in Guaymas, Sonora, Mexico, she considered her mother her strongest supporter. Her father, who served in the military, was also a journalist in both Mexico and the United States, and Mayor of Tequisquiapan, Quertaro, Mexico.

She considers her father her role model based on his political and community work. She studied at the Bellas Artes Academy, beginning with a career in radio and eventually appearing in over 100 feature films. She starred in such international favorites as "Mame," "Que Tal Dolly," and "Gypsy."

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Silvia Pinal, the 1999 Mr. Amigo, as well as the cities of Brownsville and Matamoros, for their dedication to international goodwill between the United States and Mexico.

HONORING JIM PATTI, A FRIEND
TO ALL**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to pause and remember a man that will be greatly missed. Jim Patti touched many people's lives and was a friend to all. He passed away at the age of 49 on January 26, 2000.

Jim's record of friendship began as early as anyone can remember him. When he was in grade school, his best friend went to a different school. They were both very happy when they ended up in the same high school. Jim was very active on the decorating committee for all of the dances sponsored by the high school. Jim enjoyed drawing and he would design all the decorations.

Working at the family restaurant, Patti's Restaurant, was always a part of Jim's life. He started working at the family-owned business by the time he was seven years old. He was a busboy and a story-teller. He loved people and he would always remember the stories to tell about them. He also met his wife, Judy, at the restaurant. Eventually Jim and Judy took over ownership of the restaurant and remodeled it several times. They also owned J. Patti Construction.

Jim also loved sports, especially Colorado sports. From the University of Colorado Buffaloes to the Denver Broncos, Jim was always ready to get together to watch the game. Having a good time was one of Jim's fortes. He enjoyed having his family and friends. Even though the family was large, there was always enough love to go around.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I offer this tribute to Jim Patti, the "trunk of the family tree". He was a great friend to all and loved life to the fullest.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE MICHAEL
FARRELL AND JUDGE LELAND B.
HARRIS**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to pay tribute to Judge Michael Farrell and Judge Leland B. Harris, who will be honored on February 17, 2000, by the San Fernando Bar Association (SFVBA). Judge Farrell will be named the San Fernando Valley Bar Association Judge of the Year and Judge Harris will be presented with a Special Recognition Award.

Judge Farrell has enjoyed a long and distinguished judicial career. He currently serves as the Supervising Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court Northwest District. He was elevated to this position in 1989, after being appointed to the Municipal Court Bench in 1986 by former Governor Deukmejian. Prior to that,

he served as a U.S. Bankruptcy Court Trustee, and was an attorney for the San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Legal Services, Global Marine, Inc., and the law firms Early, Maslach, Foran & Williams; Hunt & Finn; and his brother's firm Coleman & Farrell.

In addition to his numerous and substantial judicial responsibilities, Judge Farrell has been working with the SFVBA, Neighborhood Legal Services, and the Monroe High School magnet program to start a pilot self-help program. The program will provide free legal information and legal services to the public. He has also taken an active role in seeking Los Angeles County funds to repair the damage to his courthouse caused by the Northridge Earthquake.

Judge Harris will be honored for his dedicated service and work with the Calabasas Teen Court Program—a program run by teens, and for teens that is designed to interrupt developing patterns of criminal behavior, promote self-esteem and provide motivation for self improvement and a healthy attitude toward authority.

Judge Harris graduated from San Fernando Valley State College (now Cal State Northridge) and the University of San Diego School of Law. He was appointed to the Municipal Court by former Governor Deukmejian in 1991. Prior to this appointment he served as a Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney, including many years at the San Fernando Court. During this time, many of his accomplishments were in the area of nursing home reform. He was instrumental in changing a section of the penal code in 1986 to expedite the testimony of elderly crime victims and witnesses.

It is our distinct pleasure to ask our colleagues to join with us in saluting both Judge Farrell and Judge Harris for their outstanding achievements, and to congratulate them for receiving the prestigious honors granted them by the San Fernando Valley Bar Association.

MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY RELIEF
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 6, the "Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Act of 2000," and I urge that we continue to work toward enactment of bipartisan legislation that includes sensible tax relief and progress on reducing the national debt.

Mr. Speaker, I have not been shy in expressing the need for debt reduction. I stand squarely behind conservative economists, such as Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, in calling for debt reduction as the highest priority for managing our surplus. I think tax cuts are an important way of providing relief for working Americans, but reducing the debt is also essential for improving the economic well-being of all Americans. Reducing the national debt lowers interest rates on everything from student loans to mortgages to credit cards to business loans. It provides financial relief to a broad range of people without the need for a large bureaucracy at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to administer and enforce the financial relief, as tax cuts require.

Relieving the national debt is also a matter of generational equity. I am convinced of the need to give future generations a fresh start in managing this country. Saddling them with more than \$5 trillion in national debt handicaps their ability to provide for future needs.

The Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Act also addresses an important equity issue—equal treatment of married couples. Under current law, dual income couples pay a higher share of taxes than single income couples with the same income. In addition, they pay a higher share of taxes than they would if they were both single. The primary reasons are because the 15 percent tax bracket and the standard deduction for married couples is not twice that of single earners. This creates a “tax penalty” for dual income married couples, including many working class families where both parents must work to make ends meet. According to the Congressional Budget Office, the average marriage penalty is almost \$1400 a year. Between 1969 and 1995, the fraction of working-age couples in which both spouses earned income increased from 48 percent to 72 percent. In Delaware alone, there are 74,120 families that suffer from the marriage tax penalty.

Republicans and Democrats alike agree that these statistics cry out for some level of relief. President Clinton proposed a \$45 billion relief package. House Democrats proposed a limited \$89 billion relief package. House Republicans have proposed a \$180 billion tax package that provides relief to more families. Marriage penalty relief was an element of the alternative tax package I introduced in 1999. Working families can benefit from debt reduction in the form of lower mortgage rates and lower interest rates on consumer debt, but they also deserve relief from a tax policy that penalizes married couples who must both work to provide for their family.

Both parties should lay aside their rhetoric and budget gimmicks that allow the President to claim he can pay down the entire debt, invest in large new spending programs, provide tax cuts, and still preserve Social Security. Instead, we need to come together, election year or not, and make judicious, common-sense decisions on how we will prudently allocate the surplus among tax relief, debt reduction, and priority programs like defense and education. We cannot make unrealistic promises on tax cuts or spending based on ten year budget projections that could rapidly change.

I support H.R. 6 because I recognize that working families deserve relief. H.R. 6 makes a strong statement to budget negotiators that marriage penalty relief must be a priority. It will serve as a good starting point for negotiations that should lead to a fair compromise that includes tax relief, debt reduction, and sensible spending for important programs. I support H.R. 6 and will continue to work to enact effective and fair marriage penalty relief this year.

TRIBUTE TO INVESTIGATOR RAMONA YOUNG ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, February 18, 2000, a retirement party in honor of Ms. Ramona J. Young will be held at the Garden Manor in Aberdeen, NJ. Ms. Young will be honored by her friends and family on the occasion of her retirement after a distinguished career as an Investigator with the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender.

Ramona Young has devoted herself to helping others in many capacities. A registered nurse, she graduated from the Montefiore Hospital School of Nursing in the Bronx, New York, and worked as an operating room nurse. In January 1975, Ms. Young came to work with the Department of the Public Advocate as a Field Representative in the Division of Citizen Complaints. In this position, she handled all the problems presented to her by New Jersey residents, ranging from motor vehicle complaints to issues relating to heating problems, always responding in an effective and courteous manner. She remained with the Division of Citizen Complaints until July of 1986.

At that time, Ms. Young was transferred to the Public Advocate's Division of Mental Health Advisory in Farmingdale, NJ, as a Field Representative covering Monmouth and Ocean counties, NJ. In this position, she called upon the use of her nurse's training to help those people who, as the saying goes, “fall between the cracks.” Ms. Young recognized that people are not just bureaucratic statistics. She worked tirelessly on behalf of people with legitimate grievances who need assistance from supportive, qualified professionals in a position to help. Guided by this philosophy, Ms. Young helped countless people through the bureaucratic maze for a fair and just resolution of their cases.

In 1995, Ms. Young was transferred from Mental Health Advocacy to the Office of Public Defender, Criminal Division, as a Principal State Investigator. Her assignment was in the Union County, NJ, Trial Region. Once again, Ms. Young proved to be a dedicated and effective advocate for the disadvantaged. She always put her experience and training to work, combined with a strong measure of compassion and professionalism. The result was unfailingly accurate, impartial and professional investigations.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to pay tribute to Ramona Young on the occasion of her retirement. While the Office of the Public Defender is losing a talented and dedicated professional, I hope and trust she will continue to contribute her energy and experience to the betterment of our community.

WILLIAM MEDESY, A LIFELONG ADVOCATE OF EDUCATION

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to pause and remember a man

that has dedicated his life to being a service to others. William Medesy passed away on February 1, 2000. He was 90 years old.

William was born in Cleveland in 1909. He graduated from Purdue University and went on to receive a master's degree from Yale University in 1938. William used his master's degree in forestry to work for the United States Forest Service and teach forestry at the University of New Hampshire until 1941. During World War II, as an officer in the United States Army Reserves, William served as a field artillery battery commander in the North African and Sicily campaigns. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

After moving in Colorado in 1960, William became the first president of Rangely College, presently called Colorado Northwestern Community College. He also served as president of Mesa State College in Grand Junction, Colorado from 1963 until his retirement in 1971. The building, Medesy Hall, which houses the multimedia computer lab on the campus of Mesa State College is named after this icon in education.

After his career in college administration, William and his wife of 66 years, Geraldine, moved to Aurora where he continued to volunteer with several organizations. He was a tutor and also read books on tape for the blind.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute to a man who contributed so much to his community. William was a great man who gave immeasurably to higher education in Colorado.

BANKRUPTCY REFORM

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends and submits for the RECORD a February 6, 2000, editorial from the Omaha World Herald regarding the bankruptcy bill recently passed by the Senate. The editorial highlights concerns regarding the numerous extraneous provisions added to the bankruptcy legislation during consideration by the Senate. The conference committee should eliminate the unrelated provisions and report a clean bankruptcy bill for final approval by the House and Senate.

[From the Omaha World Herald, Feb. 6, 2000]

BANKRUPTCY BILL IS OVERLOADED

A bankruptcy reform bill passed by the U.S. Senate has many of the desirable features of legislation passed by the House last year. Unfortunately, it also carries unrelated provisions that should be stripped away.

The two versions of the measure are similar in essential ways. The idea is to make it harder for people with higher incomes to walk away from debt following bankruptcy. People with the ability to repay some of their debt would be required to do so.

Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, is chief sponsor of the Senate bill. The Clinton administration has said it opposes the measure because it is too stringent.

Both the Senate and House versions would limit repeat bankruptcy filings and make child support the highest priority when debt repayment is ordered.

The Senate bill contains a provision to prevent violent abortion-clinic demonstrators from using bankruptcy to escape paying

finances and damages. That has occurred; Operation Rescue's Randall Terry filed for bankruptcy after a court ordered him to pay \$1.6 million.

The legislation contains provisions that would give people more information about the practices of credit card companies, which bear some responsibility for the increase in bankruptcies because of their bombardment of consumers with offers of easy credit. For instance, companies offering a low, "teaser" interest rate would have to say what the regular interest rate would be and when it would kick in.

The companies would also have to disclose how many months it would take a person to pay off his credit-card debt if only minimum payments are made. It can be a startlingly long time, because even as the debt is paid, interest continues to accrue.

But senators tacked on quite a list of unrelated matters that could cause problems. The minimum wage, for example, would rise over three years from \$5.15 to \$6.15, according to a provision of the bill. The idea is opposed by Democrats and the Clinton administration who want the rise to occur over 13 months.

The measure would give billions of dollars in tax preferences to small business. And it would tighten the penalties for selling illegal drugs to minors, increase the penalty for

selling powder cocaine to more closely match the sentence for selling crack and increase the penalty for the makers of methamphetamine.

Exactly why the minimum wage, powder cocaine and tax breaks were tacked onto a bankruptcy bill is unclear. The House-Senate conference committee could agree to separate those provisions so they can be voted on separately by the two houses. They should do so. Whatever the merits of the additions, they don't belong in the bankruptcy measure.

The bill, stripped of its irrelevant features, could emerge from the conference committee as a sound reform of a system that needs it. President Clinton might find it hard to veto a good bill in an election year.

HONORING ROSE MARIE
CORCORAN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 14, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember the life of a

woman who will be missed greatly. Rose Marie Corcoran passed away on January 27, 2000. She was 97 years old.

Rose Marie was born on November 17, 1902, in Salida, Colorado. She married William Corcoran in 1964 in Grand Junction, Colorado. Rose Marie was a licensed nurse in Grand Junction as well as a homemaker.

Rose Marie filled her days volunteering for many organizations. Some of these organizations included: First Christian Church Disciples of Christ, the Moose Lodge, Ladies Auxiliary of the Elks, VFW Auxiliary, Royal Neighbors, Engineer Ladies, and the Veteran's Hospital. She received Volunteer of the Year from Denver's Channel Nine at age 93.

Among other phenomenal things, Rose Marie also liked to travel in Italy and other European countries. At the age of 93, she traveled to Israel and was baptized in the River Jordan.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I offer this tribute in honor of Rose Marie Corcoran. She was an icon in her community and a woman with a heart of gold.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, February 15, 2000 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 17

2:30 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To hold hearings on the current status of religious liberty in Russia.
B-318, Rayburn Building

FEBRUARY 22

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Capitol Police Board, Library of Congress, Government Printing Office, Congressional Research Service, and the Joint Committee on Taxation.
SD-116

2 p.m.

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.
SH-219

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the Administration's effort to review approximately 40 million acres of national forest lands for increased protection.
SD-366

FEBRUARY 23

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2001 for Indian programs.
SR-485

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on activities of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK).
SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
SD-366

10:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2001 for the Environmental Protection Agency.
SD-406

2 p.m.

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.
SH-219

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the White River National Forest Plan.
SD-366

FEBRUARY 24

9 a.m.

Small Business
To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2001 for the Small Business Administration.
SR-428A

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on the nomination of Thomas A. Fry, III, of Texas, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.
SD-366

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works
Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2001 for the Army Corps of Engineers.
SD-406

Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Commerce.
SD-138

2 p.m.

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.
SH-219

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 1722, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to increase the maximum acreage of Federal leases for sodium that may be held by an entity in any 1 State; H.R. 3063, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to increase the maximum acreage of Federal leases for sodium that may be held by an entity in any one State; and S. 1950, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 to ensure the orderly development of coal, coalbed methane, natural gas, and oil in the Powder River Basin, Wyoming and Montana.
SD-366

FEBRUARY 29

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget estimate for fiscal year 2001 for the operation of the National Park Service system.
SD-366

10 a.m.

Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Justice.
SD-192

2:30 p.m.

Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending committee business.
SR-485

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings to examine the President's proposed budget for fiscal year 2001, focusing on the U.S. Forest Service.
SD-366

MARCH 1

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings on the National Association of Public Administrators' Report on Bureau of Indian Affairs Management Reform.
SR-485

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings to examine the President's proposed budget for fiscal year 2001, focusing on the Department of the Interior.
SD-366

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the legislative recommendation of the Disabled American Veterans.
345 Cannon Building

MARCH 2

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on legislative recommendations of the Jewish War Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Blinded Veterans Association, and the Non Commissioned Officers Association.
345 Cannon Building

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings to examine the President's proposed budget for fiscal year 2001, focusing on the Department of Energy.
SD-366

10 a.m.

Appropriations
Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of State.
S-146, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the United States Forest Service's proposed revisions to the regulation governing National Forest Planning.
SD-366

MARCH 7

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the Retired Enlisted Association, Gold Star Wives of America, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Air Force Sergeants

Association, and the Fleet Reserve Association.

345 Cannon Building

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Secretary of the Senate, and the Sergeant at Arms.

SD-124

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, and Immigration and Naturalization Service, all of the Department of Justice.

SD-192

MARCH 15

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

345 Cannon Building

MARCH 21

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Federal Communications Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

S-146, Capitol

MARCH 22

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Retired Officers Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War, AMVETS, and the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs.

345 Cannon Building

MARCH 23

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the Department of Commerce, and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

S-146, Capitol

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on the Monetary Policy Report to Congress pursuant to the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978.

SH-216

MARCH 29

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on S. 1967, to make technical corrections to the status of certain land held in trust for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, to take certain land into trust for that Band.

SR-485

APRIL 5

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 612, to provide for periodic Indian needs assessments, to require Federal Indian program evaluations.

SR-485

SEPTEMBER 26

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

POSTPONEMENTS

MARCH 15

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on the proposed Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

SR-485

APRIL 19

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on S. 611, to provide for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups.

SR-485